

November 17, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: WT Docket No. 14-196

Dear Ms. Dortch,

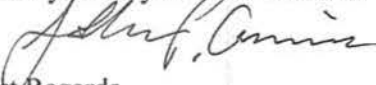
As the former Vice Commandant of the United States Coast Guard and an experienced Search and Rescue (SAR) pilot, I wish to express my strong support for Breitling's waiver request, which would permit certification and use of the Breitling Dual Band Emergency (the "Emergency2"), the first wrist-worn Personal Locator Beacon. Based on my personal experience of 38 years in the Coast Guard and over 7000 flight hours as a commercial and military pilot, I strongly support certification of an emergency locator device. I can cite numerous cases where lives could have been saved with the ability to quickly locate downed aviators and others in distress. In cold water and extreme environmental conditions, minutes often mean the difference between a successful rescue and the loss of survivors.

The Breitling Emergency2 wristwatch is equipped with a dual frequency transmitter that helps with both initiating a search and rescue operation as well as delivering pin-point accuracy to locate survivors. This is of great use to pilots and adventurers during extreme situations, as it is an essential safety and survival aid.

I understand that the purchaser of a Breitling Emergency2 must agree to specific condition of sales. These conditions clarify that "the transmitter cannot be activated, except in clear situations of distress." Pilots and other users are also informed that improper use "...may involve penalties and lead to substantial financial expenses, and in addition the cost of the rescue operations provoked by the signal of the transmitter," thus providing additional financial disincentives against deployment for non-emergency purposes.

I strongly urge that the FCC grant permission for all qualified users to employ the capabilities of the new Breitling Emergency2. I believe that increased use of emergency locator devices will do much to improve aviation safety, provide adventurers increased peace of mind and facilitate rescue operations across the United States..

Thank you for your consideration.

  
Best Regards,  
John P. Currier  
Vice Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard (retired)  
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